

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

|                             |   |                               |
|-----------------------------|---|-------------------------------|
| In re Application of:       | ) |                               |
|                             | ) |                               |
| Fredéric SGIER et al.       | ) | Group Art Unit: 3733          |
|                             | ) |                               |
| Application No.: 10/766,911 | ) | Examiner: Shaffer, Richard R. |
|                             | ) |                               |
| Filed: January 30, 2004     | ) |                               |
|                             | ) |                               |
| For: VERTEBRAL ARTHRODESIS  | ) | Confirmation No.: 4613        |
| DEVICE                      | ) |                               |

**MAIL STOP RCE**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

**PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME**

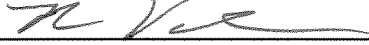
Applicants petition for a three month extension of time to reply to the Office action of July 7, 2006. A fee in the amount of \$1280.00 is enclosed. The fee includes the extension fee of \$510.00 for small entities as well as a fee of \$395.00 for a Request for Continued Examination filed concurrently herewith.

Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge any additional required fees to our deposit account 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,  
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: January 5, 2007

By:   
Matthew Van Eman  
Reg. No. 58,063